

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A brewing apparatus comprising:
 - a reservoir for storing heated water;
 - a brewing chamber having a drain disposed at a substantially lowermost elevational position;
 - plumbing for communicating heated water from the reservoir to the brewing chamber;
 - a flow control valve cooperating with the plumbing to regulate flow of heated water to the brewing chamber;
 - a controller communicating with the flow control valve for opening the valve to permit water to flow through the flow control valve to the brewing chamber, and for closing the valve to halt water from flowing through the flow control valve into the brewing chamber;
 - a memory accessible by the controller, storing a plurality of pulse brew profiles each corresponding to a different sequence of opening and closing the flow control valve during a brewing operation; and
 - selectors operably controlled by a user for choosing one of said pulse brew profiles stored in the memory and accessible by the controller.

2. The brewing apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the pulse brew profiles extend indefinitely, and wherein each pulse brew operation concludes only upon a determination by the controller that a pre-determined volume of brewed beverage has been generated by the brewing operation.

3. The brewing apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said memory stores at least three pulse brew profiles.

4. The brewing apparatus of Claim 1 wherein at least one of said pulse brew profiles includes a first portion defining repeating cycles, and where said controller is operative in response to said first portion to open and close said flow control valve for a predetermined period, and said controller is operative in response to a second portion to open the flow control valve until a pre-selected volume is reached.

5. The brewing apparatus of Claim 1 wherein at least one of said pulse brew profiles includes a first portion and a second portion, wherein the controller is responsive to said first portion to open the flow control valve for at least one minute, and is responsive to said second portion to open and close the flow control valve in a repeating cycle until a pre-selected volume is reached.

6. The brewing apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the controller polls a temperature sensor sensing a temperature of the infusion liquid in the reservoir, and is

responsive to the temperature of said sensor falling below a predetermined minimum temperature to close said valve and suspend the brewing operation.

7. The brewing apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the pulse brew profiles are incorporated in a plurality of comprehensive brewing operation instruction sets, each said comprehensive brewing operation instruction set further comprising instructions selected from the group comprising brewing temperature and brewing quantity.

8. The brewing apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising a bypass valve in fluid communication with the reservoir, and a conduit for communicating water from the bypass valve to a beverage collecting member and circumventing the brewing chamber.

9. The brewing apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the controller alternates opening the bypass valve and the flow control valve to create an appearance of a continuous flow through the brewing chamber.

10. A brewing apparatus comprising:
a reservoir for storing a heated infusion liquid;
a brewing chamber having a drain disposed at a substantially lowermost elevational position;

a spray head disposed over the brewing chamber for communicating infusion liquid from the reservoir into the brewing chamber;

a flow control valve cooperating with the spray head to regulate flow of infusion liquid into the brewing chamber;

a controller communicating with the flow control valve for opening the valve to permit infusion liquid to flow through the flow control valve into the brewing chamber, and for closing the valve to halt infusion liquid from flowing through the flow control valve into the brewing chamber;

a memory accessible by the controller and storing a plurality of predetermined intermittent flow profiles each corresponding to a different sequence of opening and closing the flow control valve during a brewing operation, the sequences including

(a) a first sequence wherein the valve is open for a selected interval and then the valve is closed for a selected interval, and such pattern repeats for a first period, and where the valve then opens continuously until a predetermined volume of infusion liquid is introduced into the brewing chamber;

(b) a second sequence wherein the valve is open for at least one minute during a first period, and where the valve is then intermittently opened for a selected interval and closed for a selected interval during a second period until a predetermined volume of infusion liquid is introduced into the brewing chamber; and

(c) a third sequence wherein the valve is adjustably opened and closed by a user created profile; and

selectors operably controlled by a user for choosing one of said intermittent flow profiles stored in the memory accessible by the controller.

11. A brewing apparatus comprising:

a reservoir for storing heated infusion liquid;

infusion liquid delivery means disposed over a brewing chamber for communicating infusion liquid from the reservoir into the brewing chamber;

a valve means cooperating with the delivery means to regulate flow of infusion liquid into the brewing chamber;

controller means communicating with the valve means to regulate the flow of infusion liquid into the brewing chamber;

memory means accessible by the controller means and storing a plurality of predetermined intermittent flow profiles each corresponding to a different sequence of opening and closing the valve means during a brewing operation; and

selector means operably controlled by a user for choosing one of said intermittent flow profiles stored in the memory means accessible by the controller means.

12. A method for brewing a beverage using a predetermined intermittent brewing sequence comprising:

storing a plurality of intermittent flow profiles in a memory accessible by a controller, said stored intermittent flow profiles extending indefinitely without a predetermined finish;

providing a selector to allow a user to choose from among the plurality of intermittent flow profiles in the memory;

controlling the flow of infusing liquid introduced into a brewing chamber based upon a selected intermittent flow profile; and

stopping the flow of infusing liquid into the brewing chamber during the intermittent flow profile when a predetermined volume of infusing liquid has been introduced into the brewing chamber.

13. A programmable brewing apparatus comprising:

a controller for regulating a flow of water into a brewing chamber, the controller including a memory for storing predetermined flow delivery profiles that intermittently deliver water to the brewing chamber based upon said profiles;

input means for selecting a desired flow delivery profile for a brewing operation;

recipe storing means for incorporating the selected flow delivery profile into a predetermined instruction set selectable by the user, said predetermined instruction set including commands for carrying out the brewing operation in addition to the selected flow delivery profile.

14. The programmable brewing apparatus of claim 13 further comprising bypass flow means for directing fluid outside of the brewing chamber, said controller regulating the bypass flow means to coordinate with the flow delivery profile so as to simulate an appearance of continuous flow through the brewing chamber.

15. The programmable brewing apparatus of claim 13 wherein the controller includes means to poll the temperature of the water prior to a brewing operation, and to then proceed with the brewing operation only after the controller determines that the temperature of the water is above a minimum threshold temperature.

16. The programmable brewing apparatus of claim 13 that includes at least one custom flow delivery profile creatable by a user.